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<u>VIA fax and mail</u> 1/1/01 301/713-0376

November 1,2001

Ann Terbush National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Protected Resources F/PR1 Permits Division 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705 Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Protected Species Special Exemption Permits; Docket No. 001031304-0304-01

Dear Ms. Terbush:

As Vice President of Programs and Exhibits for the New England Aquarium, an accredited member of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA), I am writing to fully endorse AZA's comments with regard to the National Marine Fisheries Service's proposed regulations pertaining to the public display of marine mammals.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,,

Dr. Mike Connor Vice President, Programs & Exhibits

Cc: Steve Olson, AZA